

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BOARD OF HEALTH MEETING
TUESDAY, MAY 12, 2020 5:00 PM
Virtual Meeting

Present: Richard Schadewald, Jay Tibbetts, Cynthia Brown-Sullivan, Susan Molenaar, Kim Schanock, Edward Morales, Karen Sanchez

Excused: None.

Others Present: Anna Destree, Andrea Kressin, Ann Steinberger, Ted Shove, Erik Pritzl, Pam Waise, Kate Long

1. Call Meeting to Order / Introductions

Chairman Richard Schadewald called the meeting to order.

2. Approve / Modify Agenda

MOTION: To approve agenda

Morales / Brown-Sullivan

MOTION CARRIED, VOICE VOTE TAKEN: Ayes: Richard Schadewald, Jay Tibbetts, Cynthia Brown-Sullivan, Susan Molenaar, Kim Schanock, Edward Morales, Karen Sanchez. Nays: None

3. Approve / Modify Minutes January 14, 2020.

MOTION: To approve the minutes from January 14, 2020.

Brown-Sullivan / Molenaar

MOTION CARRIED, VOICE VOTE TAKEN: Ayes: Richard Schadewald, Jay Tibbetts, Cynthia Brown-Sullivan, Susan Molenaar, Kim Schanock, Edward Morales, Karen Sanchez. Nays: None

4. COVID-19 Update - Anna Destree

Anna described the Unified Command structure with Brown County, De Pere Health and Oneida Nation and they are operating out of the Emergency Operations Center. Anna reviewed the four objectives of the Unified Command and what is currently happening with testing, contact tracing, isolation and quarantine and logistics. Erik Pritzl stated a team from the CDC has been here for a couple of weeks studying our epidemiological curve and testing and how the picture looks in Brown County and trying to give us some guidance with the State.

Dr. Morales asked if people that go into isolation and quarantine are forced or is it voluntary. Anna stated they start with voluntary but if they do have an individual that is not compliant, and then a health officer order can be done. Dr. Morales asked about follow up and Anna stated the providers do follow up with the positive or negative results.

Jay Tibbetts asked what things have they done well and what things have they learned from. Erik Pritzl stated there was a lot of good work done around the patient surveillance and contact tracing. Erik stated the isolation and quarantine was established quickly and it was done with their own resources. Erik stated logistics worked effectively and efficiently. Erik stated they needed to be faster to add people to the structure. Anna stated working with the cities and the villages has been amazing and acting as a Unified Command with County, City and a Tribe. Anna stated there are things in hindsight they will wish they could have done and there were things they could do better.

Dr. Tibbetts inquired on the shift of staff as the PIO. Anna stated they recognized that Environmental Health was going to be a significant area and they knew reopening was coming and they needed Ted Shove to focus on environmental health, which included developing policies and guidance for different industries on how to open up safely so different PIO was put in place.

Karen Sanchez asked about PPE for employees, such as the CTC or Outreach. Erik stated they believed there was a stockpile that they would be able to access quickly. They had some PPE on site for infection control and only the people who were treating the resident. A wide spread supply was not

in place at the time. Their belief was that they would be able to access it and they learned quickly that it takes some time. Erik stated they have now been able to acquire from the stockpile and through logistics locally and have made improvements.

Karen had concerns regarding a message relayed by the PIO, in particular the outbreaks at the meat packing plants. One of the messages was you are just as likely to get it in your driveway with your neighbors and Karen did not think that was true. Karen wanted to know how the information is managed and who provides the information that is presented to the public. Anna stated there is a PIO, a Joint Information Center and a Public Relations Firm that is assisting as well as the County Executive's office and community members as well. Anna stated through the contract tracing and surveillance they heard overwhelming accounts of people getting together with their neighbors, Easter gatherings, and parties, and the message was to be just as vigilant everywhere. Mr. Schadewald stated this is a lesson learned and be more aware of our messages.

Kim Schanock stated to Erik and Anna that she is aware of two organizations that reached out to the Health Department with questions and situations that arose in their work environments and both received a timely response and helpful information.

Susan Molenaar asked how patients are cleared by the Health Department. She also stated when she called a patient, many times, they were already contacted by the Brown County Health Department and she thinks it was very commendable.

Ann Steinberger stated calls are being made to individuals to see how they are doing and then they can be cleared to return to work. As the numbers increased, some providers did that for them when they had mass testing at the meat packing plants. Pam stated we ask about signs and symptoms and if they are still having them, testing other family members and other exposures and then working with them to release them to go back to work.

Richard Schadewald stated as the chairman he is going to schedule monthly Board of Health meetings because as reopening of businesses occur and we go through holidays and prepare for school.

Mr. Schadewald asked for an explanation of what being cleared to work entailed. Pam stated depending on if a patient or client test positive and are symptomatic and they are being asked to be out of work from their medical provider, we refer them back to their medical provider for that release to return to work. If we are asking someone to isolate and potentially quarantine because they are a contact we can assist them with that. Mr. Schadewald asked if someone tests positive do we take him or her out of work. Pam indicated yes we do. Mr. Schadewald asked if the testing at the Resch Center was free. Anna indicated it is completely free. Mr. Schadewald asked if they register for a time slot. Anna stated there are different ways to sign up on line, including www.stayhealthybc.com and through community partners. Mr. Schadewald asked if we would be offering the test in the summer. Anna stated they would be referring people back to their health care providers for testing. Mr. Schadewald asked how long they are providing isolation and quarantine. Erik stated isolation and quarantine is going to change. Right now, their first advice to people is to self-quarantine. They recognize people have challenges doing that and that is why they have those sites in place. The State in some ways guides this with their declarations. They are going to look at those as decision points on how they react with isolation and quarantine. Right now the State of Wisconsin supports isolation and quarantine sites at 100% funding and the contract end date is September. Erik stated it is a difficult thing to answer right now as they don't have an endpoint, and whether it is supported or not, because if it is not funded at that same level, or the national declaration ends and the FEMA funds are no longer there, it will be a huge decision point for the County to think about what they are going to support and if there is a need.

Mr. Schadewald stated businesses are reopening and it is hard to obtain PPE in anything other than bulk and asked if we can create a PPE stockpile where we would be the intermediary between Brown County businesses and residents who needs PPE. Erik stated this is a discussion to be done at the County level, as warehousing PPE could be a tracking logistical enterprise. Mr. Schadewald asked about PPE for County workers if they are provided with PPE in all departments. Erik indicated the critical response departments have been getting PPE and other departments would have to do that themselves.

Dr. Tibbetts asked if an essential worker went in to be tested just for the sake of being tested, and he was not exhibiting any symptoms or anything unhealthy and now the test result comes back positive, are we recommending that person does not go back to work. Pam Waise stated they would recommend that person not go back to work because they are positive for a period and at that time, they are self-monitoring for symptoms. They are finding those individuals that go in to get tested sometimes that are not symptomatic, they will develop symptoms at some point so we want them to get through a period of time before they go back to work with that confirmed test. Dr. Tibbetts asked what is that time. Pam stated the guidance that came out recently is ten days from the date of the test.

Supervisor Joan Brusky asked whether Public Health has enough staff. Anna stated they continue to evaluate and if they feel there is a need they put in a request through their process. Joan Brusky asked where would we get staff. Anna stated they put out the ask to community partners. Within Unified Command there are many agencies as well. We also have WEAVER and a volunteer registry at the State. Joan Brusky asked where does one find information such as statistics as far as how many are hospitalized. Anna stated DHS has a database on their website and Patti Zich will email the link to the Board of Health members and Joan Brusky. Erik stated the hospital information is on the DHS website at COVID 19: Hospital Capabilities. Joan asked if there would be public service announcements. Anna stated what they are hearing is there is an over saturation of information and it is being ignored. There is a behavioral aspect to this that just because we say it does not mean that people will do it. Anna stated in the absence of having someone you know have symptoms, it is difficult to have someone change their behavior. Anna stated at a local level the CDC would be providing training on how community testimonials can appeal to people.

5. Environmental United Update – Ted Shove
a. License fees

Ted Shove stated with businesses, especially restaurants being closed, there has been concern and thought into how we may help to get them back up and one of the common themes is to look at reducing their annual licensing fees, which traditionally would be due July 1st. On April 29th, just under two weeks ago the Human Services Committee there were a number of considerations; to reduce the license fees by 50%; cap the fees at \$50.00 for this upcoming year; and the State Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection has also proposed a guideline statewide to delay the due date until the end of the year with no late fees being assessed. Ted stated at the conclusion of the Human Services Committee, a motion was made to delay the sending of renewals until December and request a 50% reduction of fees as it relates and forward to the Administration Committee. Richard Schadewald stated at the Administration Committee it was agreed to hold the collection of any fees to health related businesses during the COVID 19 pandemic and waive all late fees until September 1st. Ted Shove stated one of the things that came out of Unified Command is how do we address reopening the County businesses. Ted and his staff were demobilized from Unified Command and they put together a task force. They have been in contact with businesses and industry associations. We can put together documents to that specific industry which was finalized. Those documents are in the process of being reviewed by Corporation Counsel. They would then put on their stayhealthybc.com website and disseminate to the businesses. Some of things they have implemented is a virtual inspection process and this is primarily directed at pre-inspections. These are facilities that have applied for licensing and they are now going through Skye or Web-Ex and doing a virtual walk through with the operator. They have implemented curbside drop off for lab samples. They put together an agreement for the transient water systems, their lab staff have worked diligently for nitrate testing, and they are waiting for the State to do a physical proficiency test where they watch the lab techs do the process. It is the goal to return to field inspections and what will be the new normal and how we can coach them. In the coming weeks, they may get back to lead safe home investigations as well as small water system inspections and ultimately water sampling. They have worked with school districts to request a second school inspection. Without that request, it would have jeopardized their USDA funding for the next year. The calls they receive are individuals requesting guidance.

6. Referred from Human Services Committee - Communication from Supervisors Tran, Evans & Brusky re: To direct the Board of Health to do a double-blind study on the health effect of infrasound (produced by wind turbines)

Mr. Schadewald stated those supervisors have asked that we hold this.

MOTION: To hold Item No. 6 for a future Board of Health agenda Brown-Sullivan / Morales

MOTION CARRIED, VOICE VOTE TAKEN: Ayes: Richard Schadewald, Jay Tibbetts, Cynthia Brown-Sullivan, Susan Molenaar, Kim Schanock, Edward Morales, and Karen Sanchez. Nays: None

7. Adjournment / Next Meeting Schedule - June 9th, 2020 5:00 PM

Meeting concluded at 6:30PM

MOTION: To adjourn meeting Tibbetts / Morales

MOTION CARRIED, VOICE VOTE.

Respectfully submitted,
Patti Zich